

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 5 77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590

REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF: SR-6J

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

January 5, 2023

Kelly Horn, Branch Chief Radiation Protection Services Division of Nuclear Safety Illinois Emergency Management Agency Email: Kelly.Horn@illinois.gov

Re: IDNR Pond Property near NPL-8 of the Ottawa Radiation Areas Superfund Site, Ottawa, IL

Dear Mr. Horn:

On May 4, 2022, the City of Ottawa sent EPA a map and a legal description (attached) of the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) Pond Property (the Property) adjacent to the Dayton Bluffs Preserve. The City of Ottawa is interested in delisting this Property from the NPL-8 of the Ottawa Radiation Areas Superfund Site located in Ottawa, Illinois.

The City of Ottawa leases the Dayton Bluffs Preserve and is interested in expanding its boundary to include this Property. The City is considering a Long-term License Agreement for this Property with IDNR.

In April 2022, Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA) conducted a radiation survey and sample collection of this Property (IEMA survey is also attached) to determine the presence of radium contamination exceeding the remedial action objectives (RAO) of 6.2 picocuries per gram (pCi/g) concentration limit. IEMA concluded that the area surveyed meets the release guidelines set forth in Appendix A of 32 III. Adm. Code 340 and the RAO established by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Additionally, there were no visual indications of the Property being used for waste disposal. Based on these findings, IEMA considers this property suitable for public use.

I concur with IEMA's conclusion above. In addition, this property is about a half mile from NPL-8 and is not and never was part of the Ottawa Radiation Areas Site. Furthermore, based on current information, this property is not subject to NPL-8 Record of Decision's requirements and does not require delisting for the City to lease it from IDNR.

Sincerely,



Nabil Fayoumi EPA RPM Signed by: NABIL FAYOUMI

Nabil Fayoumi, Remedial Project Manager Remedial Response Section 6 Superfund & Emergency Management Division

cc David Noble, City of Ottawa Site File, SEMD